

**United Nations Human Rights Council - 37th Regular Session
Item 3 - General Debate**

Statement by Conectas Direitos Humanos

Delivered by Mr. Gustavo Huppes
09 March, 2018

Mr. President,

Conectas Direitos Humanos wishes to draw this Council's attention to the current Federal Intervention in course in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

On February 16th, President Michel Temer has signed a Decree that establishes a Federal Intervention in Rio de Janeiro until the end of the year. The Federal Intervention is an exceptional instrument regulated by Brazil's Federal Constitution, which authorizes the Federal Government to intervene on a State Government on specific cases, such as to restore public order.

It is a fact that Rio de Janeiro has been facing public security issues that are also strongly related to the economic crisis. Nevertheless, the President's Decree does nothing more than endorse the notion that public security crises must be handled as warfare, since the appointed Intervenor is a General and the nature of his post as Intervenor is expressly referred as a military post - an evidently unconstitutional provision. Rio's population is already facing numerous human rights violations perpetrated by Army members, including for example illegal frisks and media censorship.

In light of this, we urge this Council to speak up against Brazil's Federal Government Intervention on Rio de Janeiro; and member states and observers to include this subject on their communications to Brazil; and at last, the High Commissioner to act on the matter to avoid more Human Rights violations in Rio de Janeiro.

Thank you.